

MOMENTOUS HOUR

Has Arrived Which Will Decide For War or for Peace.

THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PRESIDENT

In the Message He Will Submit to Congress To-Day Will be for Armed Intervention to Prevent Hostilities and Succor for the Starving People of Cuba--Does not favor the Recognition of the Independence of Cuba at This Time--No Offer of Mediation of European Powers Made to the State Department.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 5.--That the President's message will go to Congress to-morrow is the best information obtainable in Washington this evening, though the kaleidoscope of international events appears to be moving so rapidly at Madrid as to make possible some new and possibly remarkable change in the aspect of affairs that will prevent this statement holding good.

The message is ready, makes about 7,000 words, and has been approved by the cabinet. It recommends armed intervention (but so far as known without stating that this should be immediate), by the United States to prevent hostilities, and succor for the starving people of Cuba. It makes an argument against recognition of independence at this time, and leaves it clear that in the opinion of the administration it is the duty of this government to supervise the affairs of the island until, in the light of fuller and later knowledge, a stable government can be established. The attitude of Congress on this policy cannot be foretold in advance of its official promulgation in the President's message.

The day has been prolific of reports of mediation on the part of the European powers, but a summary of all the news on this point is that the powers of Europe cannot agree, and that their interference would be unacceptable to the government of the United States.

The safety of General Lee, our consul and other Americans in Cuba, is a matter of concern to the state department, but advice from General Lee indicates that this would take some time and apparently showed that he did not share fully in the apprehension felt here.

No Mediation Offered. Throughout the day unusual activity was manifest at the foreign embassies and legations representing the great powers of Europe. But while conferences were thus going on and apprehension was keen over an anticipated move, it could not be learned up to a late hour that any actual offer of mediation had eventuated. It certainly had not been made up to the close of office hours at the state department.

The Spanish minister, Senor Polo y Bernabe did not take part in any of the diplomatic conferences, nor did he have occasion to visit the state department during the day. If the negotiations have taken any new direction, it has been between Minister Woodford and the authorities at Madrid and not at Washington.

At the capital to-day tremendous effort was made to have Congress support the outlined policy of the President. A general belief was expressed when the house adjourned that a majority of the house committee on foreign affairs was ready to support Mr. McKinley's plan and the impression prevailed that a resolution in line with the recommendations of the President would be reported from the committee. There is a great deal of uncertainty regarding the senate committee. An important conference of conservative senators was held during the day when it was determined that in case the foreign relations committee did not report in accordance with the President's recommendations, there would be a long debate upon the resolution reported and maintained action by the senate could not be expected.

No Further Negotiations. There was no cabinet meeting at the white house to-night, but several of the members spent the evening with the President and Mrs. McKinley. There have been no further negotiations with Madrid, but the President has kept in close touch with Minister Woodford and Consul General Lee, Assistant Secretary of State Adee, the cipher expert of the department, was present this evening and messages passed, but of their source or tenor nothing was given out. The administration confesses anxiety as to the situation in Havana and constant communication is kept up with General Lee, in fear of a possible outbreak.

It is thought over 1,000 Americans will be eager to leave Havana to-morrow. To care for this crowd there are the Fern, the Bache, and the Mangrove, all government vessels, and the passenger steamers Olivette and Mascot. Whether any armed vessel from the Key West squadron will be at hand to-morrow when the exodus begins could not be learned, but it was said at the white house that "all Americans would be well cared for."

It was definitely stated by three cabinet officers to-night that there was no thought of delaying the President's message beyond Wednesday.

SENATE DIVIDED

As to the Course to be Pursued Towards Cuba--Report to Foreign Relations Committee May Cause Prolonged Discussion.

WASHINGTON, April 5.--A debate which occurred in the executive session of the senate late this afternoon would indicate that no matter what was the character of the resolution to come from the committee on foreign relations, the resolution would cause a serious and perhaps prolonged discussion. It emphasizes the fact that there are two elements in the senate--one for independence with intervention, another for intervention alone, and these two factions will fight vigorously for their ideas. A general purpose was expressed to oppose the adoption of any report that

should recommend a recognition of Cuban independence and which did not include confinement to the support of the President's recommendation for intervention only. This position was taken because of the generally expressed conviction among the senators present that in case of war with Spain and the triumph of the arms of the United States, this country should be left free to dispose of Cuba as she might see proper.

The prevailing opinion among senators is that the committee will recede from its position for both independence and intervention, and report a resolution in accordance with the President's recommendation for intervention alone, but this is not certain. Of three members of the committee seen, all classed as pro-Cubans, Senator Frye announced himself satisfied with intervention; another, Senator Foraker, announced that he would not favor the change, a third, Senator Davis, refused to commit himself. Senator Lodge had previously said that he would support the President's position.

Action of Senate Committee. WASHINGTON, April 5.--The senate committee on foreign relations was prompt in getting together to-day. The meeting was held for the especial purpose of deciding whether the committee should make its report on the Cuban situation to-day or postpone that action until after the President's message shall be received to-morrow. In view of all the circumstances the committee lost little time in reaching a conclusion to delay its report until the message should be read to-morrow. The document will be referred to the committee immediately upon its presentation in the senate and will be reported back to the senate as promptly as circumstances will permit.

WAR SPIRIT IN SENATE.

Senators Chandler, Turpie and Others Advocate Driving Spain from the Western Hemisphere.

WASHINGTON, April 5.--"THE UNITED STATES OUGHT IMMEDIATELY TO DECLARE WAR AGAINST SPAIN AND TO MAINTAIN THAT WAR UNTIL THE PEOPLE OF CUBA ARE MADE FREE FROM SPANISH STARVATION AND CRUELTY, AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE ISLAND FIRMLY ESTABLISHED AS AN INDEPENDENT REPUBLIC."

This utterance by Senator Chandler, of New Hampshire, in a carefully prepared statement of his position on the Cuban crisis was the climax of an extended discussion of the subject participated in by several members in the senate this afternoon.

Speeches had been delivered by Mr. Turner (Wash.), Mr. Harris (Kas.), and Mr. Kerney (Delaware), all of whom took strong ground for vigorous and instant action by the United States. Indeed, Mr. Turner took substantially the same position as that of Mr. Chandler, basing his demand for action upon the Maine catastrophe.

Profound attention was attracted by the speech delivered by Mr. Turpie, of Indiana, one of the members of the foreign relations committee. Briefly but scathingly he reviewed the Spanish conduct of Cuban affairs and declared in the strongest terms for intervention--that would mean something--that would drive Spain from control of every foot of territory in the western hemisphere. The speech was a clear, concise statement of the position in which this country had been placed by Spanish "outrages, insults and crimes."

At the conclusion of the speeches on the Cuban question, the senate resumed consideration of the sundry civil bill, the only important progress made being the adoption in slightly modified form of the committee amendment suspending the forestry reservation proclamation of 1893.

BERNABE'S PLEA

For Simple Justice and Fair Treatment of Spain's Position--Spanish Minister Still Hopeful of Peaceful Solution of Difficulties.

WASHINGTON, April 5.--The Spanish minister, Senor Polo y Bernabe, was seen at the Spanish legation to-day and consented to talk on the present condition of affairs. He spoke freely and at times with intense earnestness. The interview is authoritative throughout.

"I am still hopeful of peace," said he. "What may seem optimistic at a moment when such passions are aroused, such naval and military operations going on, and when the current of public sentiment seems to be that war is inevitable, I cannot say that I base my view that peace will prevail upon any direct or official information. On the contrary, it is my individual judgment, based solely upon the conviction that in these enlightened days two self-respecting nations, made up of men and women of high aspirations and noble instincts, cannot and will not resort to that last and brutal expedient of war. It would be too wanton, too criminal, too offensive to all the dictates of civilization and Christianity for such an awful consequence to be brought about. To be sure, I cannot close my eyes to certain obvious circumstances existing both here and in Spain. At times they have inclined to share the popular view that the relations between the two countries were fast approaching an irreconcilable issue. And yet, at no time has it seemed to me, nor does it seem to me now, that that issue has progressed beyond the bounds of a reasonable and just settlement, alike honorable to both governments.

"Consider for a moment some of the elements of this present crisis," the minister went on, speaking with much vigor. "Can it be possible that your people will consider only one side of the case? Let us for a moment admit that

there are two sides to this case. There are always two sides to a case, and is it just or fair or chivalrous for your people, borne on by their strong and innate patriotism, to say 'We are right, Spain is wrong, that ends it?' In a great and simple justice why will not this disposition yield for a moment to a calm consideration of both sides of the case, including some of those factors which are vital and essential to Spain?

Arguing Spain's Case. "Cuba has been a colony of Spain from time immemorial--from the time of its discovery by Christopher Columbus--and as a part of Spain there is clustered about it a reverence almost sacred. Cuba is regarded by our people just as you regard one of the states of your union. What would be said if some foreign power said to the United States that Illinois or Texas or California should be free and independent of the United States? Would not your very honor be brought in question? Of course, I can understand that some one will rise up and say 'yes but the states are well governed and are at peace, while Cuba is misgoverned and in a state of insurrection.' There again, simple justice and fairness demand that there be something more than abstract assertion. To be sure your press tells of brutal savagery existing in Cuba. I do not wish to deal in recrimination. The time for that has gone by. But I give you my word that this savagery does not exist at all, that all reliable reports, official and unofficial, Spanish and American, agree that whatever may have been the condition of affairs a year or two years ago, General Blanco has inaugurated a humane and beneficent system, characteristic of the nation. Naturally with an insurrection in progress, military affairs have pursued the usual methods of military life. And in this they have been constantly restrained at all times by the determination to have their operations worthy of an honorable nation, and an honorable people. That is all Spain has sought to do in putting down a rebellion. It is what any government on the face of the earth would do. It seeks no more and no less than to preserve her established rights.

As to Autonomy. "Now as to autonomy. For some reason intense feeling has been aroused in this country against the home rule regime which Spain has inaugurated in Cuba. It seems to be overlooked in the passion of the moment that this home rule has been the aspiration of the Cubans for years. It seems to be overlooked, also, that President Cleveland and Secretary Olney urged a full measure of home rule as the means likely to bring about a termination of the Cuban conflict. Spain has granted that, granted it with the deepest sincerity. There is a disposition to find flaws in the details of the plan. Let anyone who is anxious to pick flaws, and who cares for war, take this home rule plan and examine it in detail. He will find that it gives the Cubans the most complete control of their own affairs. They have a parliament of their own, and a cabinet of their own ministers. Is it fair, just as this local parliament and local cabinet is about to assume complete control of the Cuban affairs, to sweep aside this entire system and to declare that it is a failure before it has even been tried?

"For the moment, it seems as though this equitable view was set aside and instead we hear 'autonomy is a failure. We say so. That ends it. Spain must not say that she is either sincere or that the plan is a success or will be a success.' Now is such an attitude consistent with the usual process of considering both sides of a question? Can a self-respecting nation admit of such a contemptuous disposition of a policy she has presented in the interest of peace and prosperity for Cuba? "As to the reconcentrados, I can only say that the decrees of concentration have been revoked and urgent steps are being taken for the relief of these poor creatures. While there is no doubt of the misery of their condition, yet the government is making the most heroic efforts to alleviate this condition.

"Misguided Insurgents. "As to the insurgents, they have borne arms against Spain for three years, entailing terrible loss of life and money. And yet, believing these men to be misguided, the government has sought to regain their confidence. Even to-day the Official Gazette at Havana publishes an appeal by the home rule party, urging all those in arms, insurgents as well as Spaniards, to cease hostilities, join hands and unite in celebrating the restoration of peace. It tells them, also, that if this home rule is not perfect that it may be improved. In short, the insurgents are invited to join the Spanish soldiers in laying down their arms, saying that a period of calm may be given, during which just and wise councils may prevail for the permanent betterment of Cuba. Whether this will succeed, I do not know. It seems as though some of the insurgent leaders and particularly their Cuban advisers in this country were bent upon an irresponsible policy and were deaf to reason, to a cessation of arms, or to any proposition calculated to restore peace, no matter how beneficial it might be to Cuba.

"You ask me as to the latest phases of negotiation. Of these I cannot speak owing to the restrictions of my position. I can only say that despite the animosities aroused, I believe that calm counsel will yet prevail and that the United States and Spain will be able to solve this problem on a basis just and honorable to all concerned and without recourse to arms."

Ideal Spot for Concentration. WASHINGTON, April 5.--The war department and the general of the army are considering the question of utilizing the eleven square miles which the government owns at the Chickamauga military park as the point for concentrating troops in the south for organizing and instruction, and also as the location of such reserves as may be needed for the gulf and south Atlantic fortifications from New Orleans to Charleston. Such portions of the reserve as might be needed could reach any of these fortifications in twelve hours from Chickamauga. When not needed they would be in host camps than on the coast in hot weather. A railroad two stations at the park skirts its western boundary. There are 5,000 acres of open woods from which all underbrush has been removed and 1,000 acres of dry fields, the whole suitable for excellent camps. All portions of the park are reached by the best roads which the government could construct. There is ample room to camp 50,000 troops.

To Embark Americans. HAVANA, April 5.--The Bache and the Blake arrived this morning from Key West to take American citizens to Key West who desire to leave. It now appears that yellow fever prohibitions are modified in Florida only so far as Americans are concerned. All the newspapers accept the reported mediation of the pope as a certainty, believing that the danger of rupture is averted.

El Diario de la Marina asserts that if peace is severed the firm and war-like attitude of the Spanish people have much to do with it.

POPE'S MEDIATION.

Some Very Conflicting Reports in Regard to It.

NOTHING KNOWN IN MADRID

As to the Plan by Which Pontiff Proposes to Terminate the Present Situation, Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs Anxiously Awaiting the Arrival of a Note from the Vatican--Mediation is Out of the Question so far as the United States is Concerned--News from Rome Indicates that Proposed Papal Intervention is a Failure--Great Britain Refuses to Join in the "Concert of the Powers."

MADRID, April 5.--6:30 p. m.--The German and Austrian ambassadors have just visited the United States minister, General Stewart L. Woodford, after which they called on the queen regent. There are no developments as yet, pending a further reply from Washington. Spanish it's declined on the bourse.

The minister of foreign affairs, Senor Gullon, in an interview just obtained, said the Spanish government is expecting the speedy arrival of a note from the vatican, in which the pope would indicate the plan he proposes to terminate the present situation.

In regard to the efficacy of mediation, Senor Gullon said: "It is recalled that Americans prominently participated in the pope's jubilee and presented him with a splendid gift. The pope was profoundly moved at the great manifestation of respect, and said to them that he eagerly awaited the opportunity to show his recognition. This remark has been regarded by some as indicating an inclination upon the part of the pope to favor the American side, but this conclusion is easily disproved by the intimate friendship he has always exhibited towards Spain. Moreover, the Spanish government has made his mediation conditional upon the honor and integrity of the territory of Spain being safe-guarded. Should the pope favor an armistice, clearly the insurgents should ask for it. Anyway, whatever may be the plan of mediation, it will comprise the cessation of the war in Cuba.

"In regard to the point of view of the other nations, with perhaps the fewest exceptions, all would regard with confidence the pope's mediation."

On being informed of the rise of four points in the price of Spanish furs on the bourse yesterday, Senor Gullon remarked: "There is no reason for such excessive confidence, any more than there is reason for unreasonable alarm, as the gravity of the situation is unchanged. We must have more light on the situation to see our way clearly."

The Pope's Proposals.

ROME, April 4.--It is authoritatively said that the pope's proposed terms are such as can be accepted by Spain and supported by the United States. General Stewart L. Woodford is forwarding them to President McKinley.

The pope's initiative is based principally on the fact that Spain, when she asked for the good offices of the powers, also asked for the pope's good offices. The interposition point has thus far been confined to efforts to bring about an armistice between Spain and the insurgents.

There has been an active exchange of telegrams this afternoon between the Spanish minister for foreign affairs, Senor Gullon, at Madrid, and Monsignor Merly del Val, the pope's private chamberlain, with the view of drawing up, with the consent of the pope, the exact terms of the armistice for Cuba, which will be proposed, it is said, by the pope immediately after the terms are drawn up, and the hope is expressed at the vatican that it will be agreed to by the authorities at Washington.

In clerical circles it appears to be understood that President McKinley may bring pressure to bear upon the insurgents to induce them to accept an armistice and it is understood the holy see will then exert similar influences through the episcopacy in Cuba.

It is hoped here that the armistice proposed will be definitely drawn up to-morrow or Thursday.

The vatican authorities this evening absolutely refused to furnish any information relative to the dispatch which President McKinley is said to have sent to the pope on the subject of the latter's mediation with Spain, and in which the President was represented as having outlined his views on the Cuban situation.

The clerical organ, the Osservatore Romano, is equally silent.

GREAT BRITAIN'S REFUSAL.

To Join the Movement of the Powers to Offer Mediation Between Spain and This Country--France the Prime Mover.

LONDON, April 5.--The movement of the powers of Europe for a joint offer of mediation between the United States and Spain has received a severe, and probably fatal rebuff in the form of a definite refusal upon the part of the British government to participate in it.

Many conflicting and erroneous hints regarding this scheme to bring the Hispano-American quarrel under the jurisdiction of the "concert of Europe" have been telegraphed from the different European capitals. From the highest authorities the Associated Press has obtained an outline of the details of the movement, as learned by London diplomats. The project is distinctly of Spanish origin and was set on foot by two influences, official and personal, the former requesting the good offices of the chancellors of Europe, while the Queen regent attempted personally to influence the sovereign.

It is understood that the tenor of these communications was to the effect that European interests are threatened by what Spain terms "the pretensions of the United States to the right to interfere in colonial matters."

France, not Austria, was the prime mover in the suggested mediation, and by her counsel it was suggested to the British foreign office that the powers unite in a note to the United States and Spain offering to mediate in the disputes between those two countries. Great Britain however, definitely refused to join in the movement, stating in substance that the Cuban question did not concern her. While it was not actually announced that Great Britain sympathizes with American intervention to end the war in Cuba, such sympathy is a fact. Communications looking to mediation are still being exchanged between the continental powers, but they recognize that Great

Britain's refusal to co-operate will rob the movement of much of its weight.

The emperor of Austria is the most deeply interested from certain standpoints, but financial interests seem to have actuated France even more than dynastic interest actuated Emperor Francis Joseph.

Emperor William, of Germany, is known to be lukewarm in the matter, but there is reason to believe he has learned that the majority of Germans are unwilling that Germany should oppose the United States.

It is still uncertain whether the continental powers will finally offer mediation, now that Great Britain has cold-shouldered the matter. The diplomats do not believe the United States would accept such an offer, the combination being so evidently biased in favor of Spain that Spain would gladly submit her quarrel to such a tribunal. The chief importance of the movement, in the opinion of a diplomat who is conversant with the situation, is that it probably will have the effect of widening the cleavage between Great Britain and other nations and of strengthening the growing sympathy and community of interests of the United States and Great Britain.

UNITED STATES REFUSED

To Consider the Pope's Intervention. President Declined With Thanks.

LONDON, April 5.--A special dispatch from Rome published here this afternoon says a telegram received at the vatican from the United States has announced the failure of the pope's intervention. It says that President McKinley showed himself extremely sensible of the initiative taken by the pontiff, but it is impossible for him to overcome the prejudice, even though unjust, entertained by a majority of the American people against the vatican's intervention in political affairs.

The special dispatch further says the message from the United States to Rome which is alleged to have been sent by President McKinley added that "he was opposed to war now as in the past, and would still do all possible to avoid having recourse to such a lamentable expedient," which he considered to be "unworthy of civilized countries, but he could not do so against the sentiment of the nation, which claimed the independence of Cuba and a cessation of the horrors which have been going on for three years in that unhappy island."

No Proposals Made.

WASHINGTON, April 5.--Regarding the intervention of the pope between the United States and Spain it can be again reiterated that no such proposal has been made this government, and that if there is to be papal mediation it must be between Spain and the insurgents, and that any easion the vatican can exert should be directed at Madrid. Archbishop Ireland was in Washington last week and informally knowing no formal and direct proposition would be at all acceptable, personally, as stated by the Associated Press last Friday night, urged the President to adopt as pacificatory an attitude as possible, but, as stated, didn't go beyond this.

LEE IS NOT AFRAID

But it is Likely That all Consuls to Cuba Will be Recalled Within the Next Day or Two.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 5.--Information received at the state department from Consul General Lee, at Havana, does not indicate that he regards himself or the other consular officials in Cuba in any special danger at this time, and in reply to the suggestion that it might be expedient for him to hasten his departure, he has informed the department that about ten days would be necessary for the consuls throughout the island to arrange for their departure, except in case of emergency.

No definite action has yet been taken in regard to the removal of the consuls, but it seems probable that they will be recalled within the next day or two. The government has given General Lee instruction to see to the safety of our consuls and all Americans in Cuba, and has given him full authority to go to whatever expense is necessary, including the hire of vessels that may be necessary to secure this end.

Secretary Long was asked late this afternoon if he had received any advice from Havana indicating a necessity for postponing the President's message, to which he replied: "No, the message will go to Congress to-morrow."

NEWS FROM ANDREE.

The Arctic Explorer, Said to be on the Way from Alaska in Custody of Ex-United States Mail Carrier.

VICTORIA, B. C., April 5.--Jack Carr, ex-United States mail carrier, arrived at Departure Bay from St. Michaels via Dawson, with advices from Andree, the Arctic explorer.

The news of the arrival of Jack Carr with advices from balloonist Andree was telegraphed from Departure Bay upon the arrival of the steamer upon which Carr traveled from St. Michaels. No details were given beyond the fact that Carr had such advices, and nothing further is obtainable until the steamer arrives at Vancouver or Victoria, some time to-night, as she has already left Departure Bay, which is sixty miles from this place.

Parkersburg Election.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

PARKERSBURG, W. Va., April 5.--At the city election to-day a very light vote was polled. The following councilmen were elected: E. W. Warnick, Henry Van Winkle and Lysander Dudley, Democrats, and W. W. Moore and W. B. Hupp, Republicans.

En Route to "The Front."

PITTSBURGH, April 5.--A special train of a passenger coach and eight freight cars passed through the city to-day over the Pennsylvania line en route from Frankford arsenal, Rock Island, Ill., to Fort McHenry, Baltimore. The train is in charge of Lieut. Walter S. Hughes and Lieut. George M. Stoney. It carries two eight-inch rapid fire guns and a large quantity of ammunition for small arms and rapid fire guns. Lieuts. Hughes and Stoney are under orders to report at the Brooklyn navy yard for active duty.

Movements of Steamships.

ANTWERP--Westernland, New York.

ROTTERDAM--Rotterdam, New York.

NEW YORK--Kaiser Wilhelm Der GrGoese, Bremen.

Weather Forecast for To-day.

For West Virginia, Western Pennsylvania and Ohio, fair; fresh northwest winds.

Local Temperature.

The temperature yesterday as observed by C. Schnepf, druggist, corner Market and Fourteenth streets, was as follows: 7 a. m. .... 22 3 p. m. .... 28 9 a. m. .... 23 5 p. m. .... 32 12 m. .... 25 7 p. m. .... 32 12 m. .... 25 7 p. m. .... 32

THE SUDDEN RUSH

Of the Waters on Shawneetown was so Thorough

THAT NECESSARIES OF LIFE

Are not to be Had in the Town Owing to the Fact That Not a Single Merchant was Able to Save Any Portion of His Stock--Twenty-Three Known to be Dead, 1200 People in Actual Need of Food, 700 People Homeless and Damaged to the Amount of \$300,000 is the Net Result of the Disaster of Last Sunday, Waters now Receding.

SHAWNEETOWN, Ill., April 5.--Twenty-three known dead, a possibility that the list may reach thirty, 1,500 people in actual need of the necessities of life, 700 people homeless and damage to the amount of \$300,000, is the net result of the flood which swept through Shawneetown late Sunday afternoon. Following are the dead:

Mary McAllister, colored; Ellen McAllister, mother-in-law of Mary McAllister; Mrs. Nora Flake, Charles Reinhold, 13 years of age; Annie Reinhold, 10 years of age; Ella Reinhold, 8 years of age; Charles Clayton, sr.; Charles Clayton, jr.; Gertrude Clayton, 7 years of age; Jesse Clayton, 9 years of age; Myrtle Clayton, 10 years of age; Grant Clayton, 8 years of age; Noah Welch, Mrs. Charlotte Holly, Washington Callcott, Mrs. Washington Callcott, John A. Callcott, brother of Washington Callcott, Mrs. Ruby Galloway, Miss Dora Galloway, Miss Marion Galloway, Mrs. Paul Phelan, Miss Minnie Phelan.

There is a possibility that the number of dead may exceed the list by a small margin, but there is much uncertainty regarding the number of people drowned, with the exception of those mentioned above, and there is no ground for believing that any were lost save the statement of several natives of Shawneetown that they saw people "we did not know, and we saw them drowning."

There is no danger of further damage to the town unless more storms should set in, and even then it is difficult to see how matters can be made worse than they now are. The entire town is buried under fifteen feet of water, with the exception of a narrow strip on the embankment immediately fronting the Ohio river. All of these have water in the cellar and most of them are flooded to the second story. The water began to fall to-day and by 2 o'clock this afternoon had receded eight feet from the highest mark on Wednesday. A high north wind was driving the waves before it and if no more rains come it is probable that the town will be dry within ten days or two weeks. Not a single body has been recovered as yet and there is no probability that any will be found until after the waters have entirely subsided.

Subsidence of the Flood.

The levee broke on the north side of the town, sweeping what is known as the First, Second and Third wards clean of all buildings. All of the people who were drowned met their fate in the First and northern part of the second ward, which was nearest to the breach at first. Bordering on the dike, which gave way, there is a large semi-circular dike to the south of the town, enclosing it on that side as the broken dike enclosed it on the north. Down the edge of this dike and in the town proper is a tangled mass of trees, shrubs and brush wood. Into the curve formed by the southern dike bodies were carried by the flood and all of them are supposed to be there, and are nearly all in the water, which is nearly a mile in extent from the western end of the curve to the eastern end. No attempt will be made to find the bodies unless they should come to the surface until the waters have entirely subsided.

The flood which broke the dike was not at the time the damage was caused and people were drowned over four feet in depth at first. The people were so violent, however, that all people who were caught waist deep in the stream were hurried together and smothered before they could rise.

The flood was so quick and so thorough in its work that not a merchant, a butcher, a baker, a dry goods man or any dealer in any of the other necessities of life, was able to save any portion of his stock. The consequence is that to-day in Shawneetown there is not a loaf of bread, a pound of meat or an ounce of drugs that can be bought with money. There is absolutely nothing in the town for sale.

Pressing Needs of Sufferers.

Charles Carroll, the chairman of the relief committee, and the richest man in Gallatin county, said this afternoon:

"I cannot buy anything with which to feed or clothe my family. As soon as I am finished with my work right here in this room, I shall go to the wharf-boat, where provisions are stored, take my place in line and draw rations for my family, who have absolutely nothing to eat and can get nothing to eat but what I procure for them in this way. In addition to the pressing necessity for food to sustain life, seven hundred people have been driven from their homes with no clothing but what they wore on their backs at the time they were overtaken by the flood. Every available room in town is taken, every family is living in the second story of its house and of those whose homes were wrecked, a hundred or more are camping in the court house, 100 in the school house, seventy-five in the loft of a small elevator, fifty are quartered in a flouring mill, and the ferryboat Jessie Wilson has furnished refuge for 100. These people are huddled in those places with no beds, no bed clothing, and such was the demand for room in the town last night that full 100 people remained on the open levee in a cold and driving rain driven by a gale of sixty miles an hour. There is no probability that they will be called upon to repeat this experience, as many of them have been taken to Mt. Vernon, Cypress Junction, and other places. The facilities for leaving the place are so meagre, however, and the necessity for relief so urgent, that unless the most prompt measures are taken great suffering will ensue.

The entire country, north, south and west of Shawneetown is covered with water and locomotion in all directions is most difficult and almost impossible. In the distance immediately north of Shawneetown, there was not sufficient dry ground to-day for a single polling place, and there was, therefore, no election, and the other officers will hold over for another term.

The Break Widens.

The break in the dam widened to-day to a gap of 150 yards. It is said by those who witnessed its first giving away that the disaster was caused by quicksand upon which its foundations rested. The first sign of the disaster was a sudden whirlpool about fifty feet north of the dam as though the bottom had fallen out of the river. The water rushing into this hole proved too much for the quicksand and under the dam it sank downward. All witnesses agree that the dam sunk toward the bottom of the river and was not carried inward by the rush of the water.